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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

01/29

In re Patent Application of:

Christian C. ELLENS et al.

Serial No.: 09/749,940

Filed: December 29, 2000

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

MANAGING A COMPONENT-BASED)

SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1,

line 5,

after "Managing" insert -- Dependencies in a--;

line 7,

delete "services" and insert -- Service

Functionality--.